

## To Stop Bomb Tests

To the N. Y. Herald Tribune:

Marguerite Higgins' premise that "the nuclear fallout controversy . . . is a matter of politics and sociology rather than science" is not valid, and this makes most of the rest of her article irrelevant and misleading. The "real experts in the field—strategists and diplomats" are here misusing the work of the scientist—and this applies to the Russians, as well. Only the scientist is qualified to warn the world of the dangers in the misuse of his discovery, dangers which it is convenient for the "strategist and the diplomat" to ignore.

True, scientists are divided on just how close humanity is to the brink of disaster and untold misery, because information on harmful doses of radiation to human beings and the magnitude of the danger from fallout is still so limited. All scientists are agreed, however, that there are potential dangers to mankind, and that the danger will increase if the tests continue. If the "strategists and diplomats" wait until their scientific colleagues have the proof, what will the policies of the "strategists and diplomats" be worth to a doomed, decaying, and disintegrating humanity? If it is not already too late, the alternative is simple: An immediate, negotiated, controlled cessation of the tests.

MICHAEL HEIDELBERGER.

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12, 1957.